

The House Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs offers the following substitute to HB 579:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding uniform rules of the road, so as to provide for the operation of certain vehicles upon the highways when used in connection with agricultural or forestry pursuits; to provide for a definition; to provide for conditions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding uniform rules of the road, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

"40-6-18.

(a) As used in this Code section, the term 'farm vehicle' means an all-terrain vehicle, golf cart, low-speed vehicle, moped, multipurpose off-highway vehicle, or personal transportation vehicle.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any person 16 years of age or older may operate a farm vehicle on a public road, street, or highway of this state when such operation is connected with agricultural or forestry pursuits and when such farm vehicle has an emblem, the standards for which shall be as provided for under Code Section 40-8-4. A person operating a farm vehicle pursuant to this Code section shall be granted all the rights and shall be subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under this title."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.